

What a better place we have become
because of all that immigrants have done.
They've shared their different ways they
cook
and written many stories in a book.
The unique styles that they wear—
now you see them everywhere.
They've brought us lots of delicious foods
which certainly has improved our moods!
They've created dances, songs and art
Which has caused happiness in my heart.
All the immigrants' different languages are
so neat
To learn them all would be quite a feat!
In this country you can have your say
You can give your opinion and talk all day!
We are all immigrants in our own way—
I'm so glad that we're all here to stay!

WHY I AM GLAD THAT AMERICA IS A NATION
OF IMMIGRANTS

(By John Klaasen, Olympia, WA, finalist)

Iceland
Madagascar
Mexico
India
Germany
Russia
Afghanistan
Nepal
Taiwan
South Korea
Oceania
Finland
Thailand
Haiti
Ecuador
Uruguay
New Zealand
Indonesia
Turkey
Egypt
Denmark
Spain
Tanzania
Albania
Togo
Ethiopia
Sri Lanka
Oman
France
Algeria
Mongolia
Eritrea
Romania
Iraq
Canada
Argentina

All
Refugees
Enter Looking for
Freedom,
Respect and
Open arms into our
Merry nation
Asylum
Legal residence and
Liberty
Offer
Values,
Education,
Rights,
Traditions,
Honor and
Equal treatment.
We
Offer
Refugees
Lasting

Democracy.

WHY I AM GLAD AMERICA IS A NATION OF
IMMIGRANTS

(By Allison Paige Sigmon, Sparta, NC,
finalist)

Intelligence, inventions
Movies, medicine, music, melting pot
Medical breakthroughs, marketing
Innovations, instruments (musical)
Global diversity, gods, government
Racial equality, restaurants, religion
Ancestors, agriculture, architecture, art-
ists
News, Nobel Peace Prize, nationalities
Teachers, theatre, trade, technology,
transportation
Space travel, sports, science

All of these words are what I think immi-
grants have brought to our country to make
us a strong and powerful nation.

WHY I'M GLAD AMERICA IS A NATION OF
IMMIGRANTS

(By Christa Conway, Manchester, CT,
finalist)

What do the people bring when they come to
America's shores?
What do the people bring on their boats row-
ing with oars?
What do the people bring in their trunks,
bags, and cases?
What do the people bring?
They bring a world of new faces.
The first sight that they get of land, is like
a cavern of gold
They see all brand new faces, all both young
and old.
They see the green fresh grass, or see the
glittering snow,
What do the immigrants see?
They see a new world to know.
What were the gifts they brought?
They weren't gold, riches and powers!
They brought just simply their culture,
Which now we proclaim as ours.
Music, festivals, stories,
Which we can now enjoy.
Everyone will enjoy it!!
Every girl and every boy!!
So why I'm glad America
Is a nation of immigrants true,
Is something that really matters,
It matters to me and you.
Immigrants are what make America whole,
What makes it pure and unique.
This melting pot of cultures,
Will never spring a leak!!!•

“THE WONDERS OF WARD 8”

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, it gives me pleasure to bring to my colleagues' attention a truly remarkable program that, unfortunately, is not located in my home state of Vermont, but nonetheless, does great work for Vermonters. Let me talk for a moment about the “Wonders of Ward 8.” To enlighten my colleagues, “Ward 8” houses the inpatient Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) treatment program at the Northhampton VA hospital. According to Friends of Ward 8, a group of veterans whose lives have taken on new meaning as a result of their treatment at this facility, there is no better place on earth to deal with the psychological wounds of war.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is recognized worldwide as a true leader in the area of PTSD research and I applaud my friend Dr. Matt Friedman and his staff at the National Center for PTSD for the incredible work they have done to bring this often debilitating condition to the forefront of public recognition and scholarly research. Thanks also go to Dr. Friedman for making treatment of PTSD a priority for the VA. Ward 8 is a shining example of what an inpatient program specializing in trauma treatment should look like. Although Ward 8 is located in Massachusetts, veterans from all over the country have benefitted from this program—including many, many Vermonters. It was established to offer inpatient rehabilitative treatment to veterans suffering from PTSD as a result of their wartime service and is one of eight inpatient VA programs. Ward 8 provides this high quality service while running one of the most efficient and cost effective inpatient treatment program in the VA system.

According to the Friends of Ward 8, the staff at this facility are the reason for its success. I would like to recognize and thank the “heroes” of Ward 8 beginning with the Program Director Dr. Sonny Monteiro and his dedicated staff of men and women including Dr. Richard Pearlstein, Bruce Bennett, Sherrill Ashton, John Christopher, Ken Zerner, Gary Kuck, Fran Lunny, Joe Polito, Brooks Ryder, Judy Zahn, Heather White, Wayne Lynch, Alec Provost, Mike Connor, Barbara Graf and Delores Elliott. I hear again and again from Vermonters about how they bring compassion and healing to the science of mental health. It is the human touch that they so generously dispense that makes such a difference in the lives of veterans who struggle to recuperate from their wounds of war. Their dedication to their jobs and to the lives they touch has built a legacy for this program unrivaled by any other PTSD program in the country.

I thank you, Ward 8, and the many veterans from around the country who have crossed your threshold, thank you.•

RECOGNIZING QWEST COMMUNICA-
TIONS INTERNATIONAL

• Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I rise to comment on some significant developments that have recently taken place in my home state of Colorado that will positively benefit the entire world of telecommunications.

Qwest Communications International, Inc. of Denver, a young, worldwide leader in broadband Internet-based communications, continues to expand its technologies and vision for the coming century. Just three and one-half years ago, this innovative company catapulted the world into the